plate is freely allowed. The customs duty on import of tin plate has been reduced from 50% to 40 per cent in the Budget of 1995-96.

Setting up of steel ship breaking and casting units in West Bengal

4182. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Metal Scrap Trading Corporation (MSTC) is considering to set up steel ship breaking and casting units in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether land have been acquired for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) MSTC Limited has reported that it is considering setting up steel, ship-breaking and casting units in West Bengal. Since these proposals are at a preliminary stage, no land has been acquired.

New Iron ore policy

4183. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL. Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item published in the 'Financial Express', New Delhi dated 14.3.95 udner the caption "Government rider on mining rights to foreign companies";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the new iron ore policy has been finalised and approved by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Grant of mining leases for various minerals including iron ore is regulated by the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957. The provisions of the Act have recently been amended to permit grant of mining leases to Indian nationals or any company registered in India.

(c) No, Sir.

Release of materials to firms/traders by Kalamboli Branch of SAIL

4184. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kalamboli Branch, Bombay of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) have released material to firms/traders in the month of March, 1995;

(b) if so, what are the details of firms who have applied for the material under Post Dated Cheque Scheme (PDC Scheme) and against cash payments/Bank guarantees;

(c) what are the names of the firms who were given material under the above two categories;

(d) whether some traders/firms were refused materials on cash payment and others were given on credit and discounted rates causing loss to SAIL; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to enquire into the matter and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. Kalamboli Branch, Bombay of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), has sold steel materials to different customers, including trade, during the month of March, 1995.

(b) and (c) It would not be in the commercial interest of the Company (SAIL) and its customers to provide the names of the different customers to whom the materials have been sold and the details of commercial terms of business with individual customers.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Setting up integrated steel plant in Orissa

4185. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of Mesco Kalinga Steel Ltd. to set up an Integrated Steel plant in Orissa has been approved by Government;

(b) if so, the estimated cost, capacity, location and employment generation potential of that proposed integrated steel plant; and

(c) the expected date/year of the commercial production of that proposed steel plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) Government have approved the proposal of M/s. Mesco Kalinga Steel Limited for grant of permission under 100% Export Oriented Scheme and for foreign investment to set up an integrated steel plant at Kalinga Nagar Industrial Complex, Sukinda in Orissa to manufacture 13 lakh tonnes per annum of H.R. Coils and 5.00 lakh tonnes per annum of Pig Iron, at an investment of Rs. 2,43,827.40 lakhs in fixed assets. The proposed project, with an employment potential of 1645 persons, is expected to be commissioned in December, 1997.

Short supply of wagon to SAIL

4186. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to short supply of wagon to SAIL steel plant the inward movement of raw material and also the despatch of steel has been adversely affected, resulting in serious constraints to maintain the production target of steel plants; and

(b) the number of various type of wagons indented during 1992-93 to 1994-95 and the figure of actual placement by Railways during the periods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The number of various type of wagons indented by the 5 integrated plants of SAIL during 1992-93 to 1994-95 and the figure of actual placement is given below:

Type of wagon	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95	
	Indented	Supplied	Indented	Supplie	Indented	Supplied
BOX/BXON . . .	135460	135845	134277	129229	145656	131025
FFR/BRH/BRN . .	69387	58073	75502	61162	77216	60921